

There's a new chief in town!

In Costa Mesa's 58-year history, our town has only had five permanent police chiefs—and three of them spent a combined half-century keeping watch over the city. Which makes Tuesday a special day in Costa Mesa history.

At 3 p.m. Tuesday in the City Council Chambers, Tom Gazsi will be sworn in as Costa Mesa's sixth police chief, and city employees and the community is invited to attend the ceremony and reception afterward.



Chief Tom Gazsi

Tom's story is a good one. He's a local Costa Mesa boy made good. He began his career as a teen-age Explorer Scout with the Newport Beach Police Department and steadily worked his way up to captain. He's well-respected, has a squeaky-clean reputation and is known for being engaging and fair-minded.

He's a longtime resident of Costa Mesa, living on the Eastside with his beautiful family, and knows the community like only someone raised here could. He also happens to be an ordained pastor, church elder and skilled craftsman (he restores 19th century locomotives in his spare time).

And with his deep local roots and passion for Costa Mesa, he'll immediately help the department move forward and provide long-term leadership to the police chief's position.

Simply put, he's a perfect fit for our City.

Tom Hatch, chief executive officer, City of Costa Mesa

On the calendar this week

Sept 5 MONDAY City Hall closed for Labor Day.

Sept 6 TUESDAY City Council meeting begins at 6 p.m. On the agenda: reorganization of several departments with a focus on the Administrative Services Department and CEO's Office; a look at proposed Costa Mesa Transparency and Accountability Reform Act; status report on RFP Contracting Committees; and Homeless Task Force update.

Sept 8 THURSDAY Historical Preservation Committee meets at 5:30 p.m. and Cultural Arts Committee meets at 6:45 p.m. Both at City Hall.

Sept 9 FRIDAY The Costa Mesa Senior Center at 695 W. 19th St. will host a \$10 spaghetti and meatball dinner from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Persons attending must pay the fee at the Senior Center by Wednesday. No phone reservations accepted.

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☒ Comments

or suggestions, please contact wlobdell@ci.costa-mesa.ca.us



City of Costa Mesa



Costa Mesa City Hall

CEO's Office



EQUAL HOUSING
OPPORTUNITY



Volunteers needed for Saturday's neighborhood clean-up

The City of Costa Mesa will host the 37th bi-annual "**Neighbors for Neighbors**" Community Clean-up on Saturday, September 10, 2011. The fall event will focus on low-income, senior-owned mobile homes. Volunteer work teams will be painting and hauling away debris. A large dumpster will be placed in the mobile home park for unwanted items. Approximately 140 volunteers will be needed. Continental breakfast and lunch will be served to all who help. Volunteers should be at least 18 years old and should not bring infants, children or youth under the age of 18. For more information, please call (714) 754-4892 or **e-mail Jacque Reeves**.

—Jacque Reeves

How long is the average Planning Commission meeting?

Dane Bora of the video production department recently determined the average length of Planning Commission meetings over the past 18 months. Were they:

- A. Two hours?
- B. Two-and-a-half hours?
- C. Three hours?
- D. Three-and-a-half hours?
- E. Four hours?

Answer: D.



Costa Mesa Remembers



September 11, 2011
9am - 11am

Commemorative T-shirts available for a \$10 Donation
Please make checks payable to CM Foundation
Order yours at CMremembers911@yahoo.com

Join us at the Army Reserve base to help pay tribute to the heroes of 9/11

Army Reserve Base
2651 Newport Blvd
Costa Mesa, CA

Sept. 11 10th anniversary event planned

City and community leaders will host a commemorative event on Sept. 11 to mark the 10-year anniversary of the terrorist attacks in New York City, Washington D.C. and Pennsylvania and pay tribute to the people who died that day. Event will take place on Sunday, Sept. 11 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the U.S. Army Reserve Base at 2651 Newport Blvd. in Costa Mesa. Speakers will include City Chief Executive Officer Tom Hatch, Police Chief Tom Gazsi, Acting Fire Chief Kirk Dominic and Iraqi Freedom veteran Second Lt. Thomas Deluccia.

The 304th Sustainment Battalion will provide the ceremony color guard, and local musician Dan Krikorian will sing. Those attending will be able to sign two "Costa Mesa Remembers" banners. One banner will be sent to the 1st Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment—the city's adopted battalion—in Afghanistan. The second banner will be sent to a sister fire station in New York City.

Sgt. Vic Bakkila will emcee the event, which will feature the releasing of doves and a moment of silence at 9:20 a.m.

A commemorative t-shirt will be available for a \$10 donation. Proceeds for the shirts will be used for a memorial plaque. Please visit the **city website** for additional details.

CEO's Office (Continued)

"Housing Options 101" workshop offered

As part of their ongoing efforts to seek solutions to homeless issues in the City, the Costa Mesa Homeless Task Force is offering a lunchtime, brown-bag lunch and Housing Options Workshop from noon to 1:30 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 9 in the Police Department's Emergency Operations Center (EOC).



The brown-bag lunchtime meeting will feature information on:

- Housing options: emergency, transitional and supportive housing
- Philosophy of transitional vs. long-term supportive housing
- Costs of supportive housing
- Importance of motel code enforcement
- Prototypes: Conversion of motels into supportive housing

This information will be of great importance to anyone wishing to add their voice to the development of realistic strategies and solutions to Costa Mesa's homeless issues.

This workshop is free and open to the public. We encourage anyone with an interest in learning more about housing to join us.

—Muriel Ullman

Cal Vet Stand Down scheduled for Sept. 17, 18

The first-ever **Orange County Veterans Stand Down** to help homeless and in-need veterans and their families will take place on Sept. 17 and 18 at Santa Ana College, Lot 13 (corner of West 17th Street and College Avenue in Santa Ana). Registration takes place from 6 to 9 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 17 only.

This Stand Down is being presented by Veterans First and the Rancho Santiago Community College District, with support from the California Department of Veterans Affairs (CalVet), the U. S. Department of Veterans Affairs (USDVA), the American G.I. Forum, the American Legion Post 291, and several other state, and local government and community-based organizations.

Orange County is home to more than 100,000 veterans with hundreds of them living on the streets. This two-day Stand Down event will offer homeless and in-need veterans a wide variety of social services provided by state and local agencies and community-based nonprofit organizations. Trained volunteers will help veterans access medical, dental, vision and other services.

The Stand Down model has been used in hundreds of cities all over the country to help tens of thousands of homeless and in-need veterans and their families.

For more information on the Orange County Stand Down or for donation or volunteer opportunities, please visit the event [website](#) or contact Veterans First at (714) 547-0615.

—Muriel Ullman



CEO's Office (Continued)

Artwork revealed for first 5 city bumper stickers

Artwork has been completed for the first 5 bumper stickers designed to promote Costa Mesa and its neighborhoods. The stickers will be printed soon and available to the public. The project is being paid for by the Costa Mesa Conference and Visitor Bureau.



Notes from the CEO's Office

At the Sept. 6 City Council meeting, a proposed reorganization of the Administrative Services and CEO's Office will be proposed ... You can read the staff report [here](#) ... Wireless Internet has been installed in the Council chambers ... Special thanks to **Tommy Thompson** (Telecom), **Adam Silva** and **John Downey** (I.T.), **Daniel Jojola** (Facilities), **Dan Baker** and **Dan Joyce** (CEO's Office), **Randy Buck** (Dev. Services/Building Inspection) ... Public Affairs Manager Dan Joyce is back from a fact-finding trip to China (paid for by the Costa Mesa Conference and Visitor Bureau), exploring a sister city possibility with affluent Ordos ... We'll feature a full report in next E-Briefing ... Ordos officials will be visiting Costa Mesa in early November ...

Making History



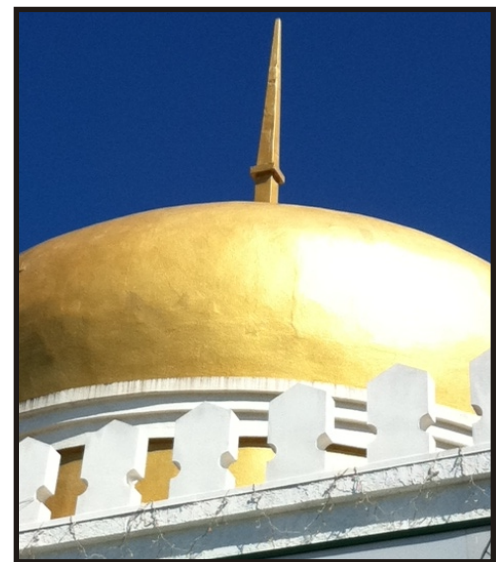
What was Grant Boys original advertising slogan?

In 1949, **Paul Clinton** and **Edward "Buddy" Grant** opened **Grants Surplus** to a town otherwise mostly defined by feed barns, hardware stores and pharmacies. It is still in business today as **Grant Boys**. What was the store's original slogan:

- A. "1001 things you can't use."
- B. "Guns for every occasion."
- C. "Take us for Granted."
- D. "Demins, Duds and Deals."
- E. "Camping made easy."

Answer: A. (Source: Eric Brightwell.)

Secret Spot



Somewhere in Costa Mesa you might recognize this bit of local scenery.

Hint: 40 thieves would give you a clue.

To get the whole picture, see [page 6](#).

Administrative Services

Free Adobe Day event set for Sept. 18

The Costa Mesa Historical Society is hosting "Early California Days at The Adobe" from noon to 4 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 18 at Estancia Park (Adams Avenue and Mesa Verde Drive). The free event will include children's activities, live music and adobe tours of the Diego Sepulveda Adobe, Orange County's second oldest building.

—Lisa McPherson



Display inside the Adobe, the second oldest building in Orange County

Development Services



Waldorf School expansion completed

The master plan project to expand Waldorf School of Orange County at 2340 Canyon Drive has been completed. The project included the addition of four regular classrooms, a science classroom, an art classroom, student restrooms, parent/teacher restrooms, a multi-purpose hall, an administration office, and a student lunch room. The additions are incorporated within four state-approved modular buildings with utilities, foundations, and raised-decking connecting them. Landscaping improvements along Canyon Drive and the existing City parkway were also completed to enhance the development.

The project used recyclable building materials and permeable paving. The modular buildings are comprised of refurbished shippings containers connected by a raised wooden deck and ground-level gathering areas. Based on the joint use agreement between Waldorf School and the Newport-Mesa Unified School District, the buildings are temporary and will be removed at the time of school closure.

—Hilda Veturis



Fire Department



Get CERT-ified in just one weekend!

The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program is scheduled for Sept. 16, 17 and 18. The 20-hour weekend course educates community members to become better prepared for emergencies, how to suppress small fires, assist with medical emergencies, conduct light search and rescue mission and how to organize people and resources before, during and after a major disaster. In the event of a major emergency, CERT members may also assist local public safety officials. Pre-registration is required and there is no fee to attend this program. Applications are available [here](#).

—Brenda Emrick



Former Costa Mesa intern hired as firefighter in Garden Grove

Joey Wingert, former fire Intern for Costa Mesa Fire Department, was recently hired by Garden Grove Fire Department as a firefighter/paramedic. Joey worked as an intern in the Fire Prevention Bureau for three years, leaving us last year. He was also a Fire Explorer during that time. Joey left Costa Mesa to attend paramedic school at Saddleback College.

He is also the son of Janet Wingert, who currently works in Telecommunications as a dispatcher. The folks in the Fire Department would like to congratulate Joey and wish him a long and successful career in the fire service!

—Acting Fire Chief Kirk Dominic

Good ink for Costa Mesa

Here's a round-up of good news coming from Costa Mesa this week.

- [Wahoo's co-founder takes it to the streets](#)
- [10th anniversary for South Coast Plaza's Festival of Children](#)
- [Costa Mesa homes sell 16% faster vs. OC](#)
- ['Dumb' prizes have special value for karate kids](#)

Secret Spotted



The Alibaba Motel on Newport Boulevard.

Police Department

Police arrest suspect less than 24 hours after killing



Costa Mesa police had a suspect in custody Wednesday less than 24 hours after a 40-year-old man was found mortally wounded near the Mesa Verde Country Club.

The victim was found lying at the driveway in the cul-de-sac in the 3000 block of Capri Lane with serious stab wounds to his left torso and chest area. Costa Mesa Fire paramedics treated the victim at the scene and transported him to Western Medical Center, Santa Ana, where he died.

Police officers and detectives interviewed subjects at the scene who had reported the incident or may have information regarding the victim and his injuries. Detectives continued their investigation throughout the night, pursuing information regarding a possible male suspect in a blue truck or SUV believed to be Jeffrey Alec Henderson. It was subsequently learned that Henderson was associated with residents at the Capri Lane residence, that he knew the victim, and that he and victim may have had an altercation earlier.

Investigators later spotted a blue SUV matching the description of one reported to have been involved, parked in the 2200 block of Pacific Avenue. It was believed that Henderson may be residing with, or obtaining assistance from, acquaintances in that area.

Henderson was later located as the passenger of another small SUV stopped by Costa Mesa police officers near Brookhurst Street and Warner Avenue in Fountain Valley. He was arrested without incident on suspicion of murder and transported to the Costa Mesa Police Department Jail for booking.

Anyone with information that may be related to this investigation is encouraged to call the Costa Mesa Police Department, Detective Scott Stafford at (714) 754-5363 or Sergeant Ed Everett at (714) 754-5395.

—Lt. Bryan Glass

Public Services

Lighted crosswalk adjacent to TeWinkle Middle School completed



Construction of a lighted crosswalk on Gisler Avenue adjacent to TeWinkle Middle School athletic field is near completion. There were numerous requests for a mid-block crosswalk on Gisler Avenue between California Avenue and Iowa Avenue to accommodate the larger number of athletic field users who park on the south side and cross Gisler Avenue with children. The City was concerned about providing a mid-block crosswalk without consideration of other traffic calming features that address vehicle speeds on Gisler Avenue.

Therefore, staff designed this project to include decorative crosswalk treatment, mid-block chokers, median islands, in-pavement flashing lights along the crosswalk and overhead mast-arms with flashing indications. These features not only enhance the appearance of crosswalk, but also provide increased visibility to the motorists.

—Raja Sethuraman

